

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF FOOD (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) Allocation of essential commodities under PDS from the Central Pool is made on a month to month basis after taking into account the availability to stock in the Central Pool, *inter-se* demand of the States/UTs, market availability of commodities, seasonal factors, off-take against allocations made etc. However, w.e.f. the month of June, 1997 quota of rice and wheat is allocated on the basis of annual average lifting for 10 years as per TPDS guidelines. The allocation of levy sugar is made at a uniform rate of 425 gms. per capita per month as per 1991 population. The allocation of kerosene is made on the basis of past demand, offtake trend and relative need while an attempt is being made to bring those States where the per capita availability of kerosene is less than the national average, to national average level.

(b) to (d) Allocation of essential commodities under PDS is made to Bihar and Gujarat as per above criteria. The details of allocation during the last three years are given in Statement enclosed.

Statement

Allocation of essential commodities to the State of Bihar and Gujarat during last three years and actual lifting by the States

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Commodity	Bihar			Gujarat		
	1994	1995	1996	1994	1995	1996
Wheat						
Allocation	702.40	705.60	702.70	642.00	814.00	670.00
Lifting	271.20	197.50	399.70	365.10	426.50	595.10
Rice						
Allocation	354.40	381.60	384.50	414.00	414.00	369.50
Lifting	50.90	19.70	27.10	191.40	202.20	270.60
Sugar	412.78	414.17	461.11	198.94	202.06	213.77
(100% lifting)						
Edible Oils						
Allocations	-	-	0.90	19.30	44.89	42.00
Lifting	-	-	-	18.46	46.55	41.16
Kerosene						
Allocation	554.99	596.22	642.81	759.37	814.95	824.02
Lifting	556.41	595.91	641.60	807.19	817.03	829.29

Voluntary Organisations

4790. SHRI SOHAN VEER SINGH : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of voluntary organisations working for the development of environment and protection of wild life in the country, State-wise;

(b) the financial assistance provided to those organisations by the State and Central Government during each of the last three years along with the names of organisations;

(c) whether the Government have received complaints regarding the misuse of funds by these organisations; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

Public Distribution System in U.P. and Bihar

4791. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the NCAER compiled Human Development profile has indicated that the net purchase of food in rural household through Public Distribution System in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar is as low as Rs. 5/- per annum;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government to the same;

(c) the estimated number of rural household below the poverty line in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar; and

(d) the specific administrative efforts made to ensure that the subsidised goods actually reach this segment?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF FOOD (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) Yes, Sir. According to the study on Human Development Profile of Rural India, 1994, compiled by NCAER, 5% of the households in Bihar and UP derive benefit under the Public Distribution System.

(b) The operational aspect of the PDS is the responsibility of the concerned State Government. However, under the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS), foodgrains to the Below Poverty Line (BPL) population will be made available at specially subsidised prices, which is expected to increase the percentage of beneficiaries deriving benefits under the PDS in the two States.

(c) As per the TPDS, the number of BPL households in Bihar and UP as per the recommendations of the Late Prof. Lakdawala Expert Group is 85.90 lacs and 95.48 lacs respectively, which comes to 54.96% and 40.85% of the total population of the two States.

(d) As per the TPDS guidelines, the State Governments are required to identify the BPL families, issue special ration cards to them and make all necessary arrangements for issue of foodgrains in a satisfactory and transparent manner.

Amount Due to Karnataka

4792. SHRI A. SIDDARAJU : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Centre has to pay Rs. 10 crore to the Karnataka State towards compensation to the victims of atrocities on the interstate couples; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken to release the same?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOWALIA) : (a) and (b) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Voice of America Report

4793. SHRIMATI KRISHNA BOSE : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Voice of America report stated that Human Rights Activist Jalil Andrabi's assassin has been identified as an officer in our Army in the rank of Major;

(b) if so, the steps taken to bring the culprit to book; and

(c) if not, whether the Government have sent a protest to VOA for the false allegation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) and (b) The Government is not aware of any such report by Voice of America. However, the High Court of Jammu & Kashmir in its order of 10th April, 1997, has directed the Special Investigating Team enquiring into Jalil Andrabi's case to secure the presence for questioning of a Territorial Army Officer, Major Avtar Singh. The concerned Army authorities have also been asked to render all possible help to the Special Investigating Team in this regard.

(c) No Sir. Does not arise in view of (a) and (b) above.

MPLADS

4794. SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR : Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have issued revised guidelines for implementation of development works under the Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have made any assessment of the implementation of the scheme and the response of the people in local areas about the scheme;

(d) whether the Government propose to enhance the allocation of funds under the scheme;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the time by which the funds for 1997-98 would be released?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) and (b) The revised guidelines on Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS) were issued on 15.02.1997 superseding the previous guidelines. A copy of the revised guidelines have been issued to all the Hon'ble Members of Parliament.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) As per guidelines, the funds are to be released immediately after the vote on Account/Budget is passed, subject to the actual progress achieved in expenditure and execution of works.

[Translation]

Loss due to Rain

4795. SHRI DHIRENDRA AGARWAL : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have estimated the loss suffered to the standing crops in various States due to unseasonal rain in March-April, 1997;

(b) if so, the names of affected States and the details of losses suffered by them, State-wise;

(c) whether the Government are considering to provide some financial assistance as compensation to the affected farmers; and

(d) if so, the amount likely to be given for the purpose, State-wise?